OLD GERMAN PAPERS SHOWN

MPA 5-15-36

Will Wordtman of East Side Has German Newspaper Printed in 1870.

Our friend, Will Wordtman of East Side, brings this paper some interesting old German newspapers, as well as the birth certificate of himself and his mother, all printed and written in German.

The newspapers were copies of the "Altonaer Nachrichten," or in English, Altona Gazette. One was dated March 10, 18[illegible], and was hand-set, of course, in German type, rather black face, which would be today eight and ten point type. The pages were of five columns each, the columns being [illegible] ems wide. There were some advertisements, set in straight lines, [illegible] no attempt at fancy displays is the case with newspapers today. News of the day was mentioned in the columns, and some space was devoted to the conditions in Paris, due to the Franco-Prussian War which was raging at that time.

Mr. Wordtman's birth certificate showed that he was born on Dec. 14, 1870, and was Christened on the 12th of March, 1871, as Martin Albert Wilhelm Wordtmann, son of Johann Friedrich Wilhelm Wordtmann and Catherine Adelheid Von Holt, the christening taking place in Altonaer Hauptkirche ("Altona Main Church"). His mother was born on Dec. 8, 1830, in Sietwende, in Parochie Drochtersen (Province of Hanover).

These papers are yellow with age, but fairly well preserved, the writing and printing as plain and clear as the same class of papers would be today. Mr. Wordtman thinks a lot of them, of course, and will take care of them as priceless heirlooms.

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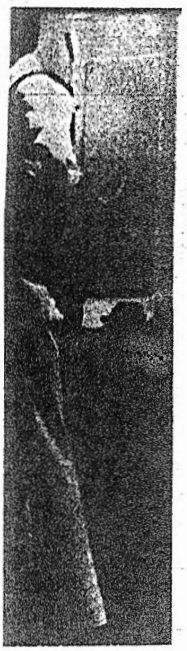
Woolridge

Wednesday, June 22, 1977 Mississippi Press—7-B



Family said they paid $1 million on $3,000 loan

ALICEVILLE, Ala. (AP)—A Black Belt family that claims it paid a white judge nearly $1 million on a $3,000 loan over a 20-year period has won a fight to keep its 131-acre cotton farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Woolridge have reached an out-of-court settlement with the heirs of the late Circuit Judge E. F. Hildreth of Eutaw.

Attorney Henry Sanders of Selma said he couldn't go into all the details, adding, "but the long and short of it is that the Woolridge family will be able to keep their farm."

Sanders said he has notified a federal court that he was withdrawing a suit against the Hildreth estate.

The Hildreth estate had begun foreclosure proceedings late last year, claiming the family owed more than $280,000.

The Woolridges filed for bankruptcy in January. Court records showed the Hildreth claim was reduced to $155,000 for seed, fertilizer and equipment.

The Woolridges said they borrowed $3,000 from the judge in 1952 to help plant cotton on their farm and another 150 acres they had rented.

"We made 500 bales some years," Woolridge said. "Each year we would take it to the judge, but he would never give me a receipt."

The cotton was delivered to gins in Greene and Pickens counties until 1969, when blacks gained political control of Greene County.

Court records showed the family delivered more than $70,000 worth of cotton to the judge from 1969 through 1972.

The land came into the family through Mrs. Woolridge's great-great-grandmother, who acquired it after being freed from slavery.

The family was given notice to vacate after the foreclosure notice and bankruptcy hearing. They asked the Emergency Land Fund to aid them, and Sanders filed suit.

Judge Hildreth died in 1973, owning large tracts of land in central and north Alabama.

FOOTBALL RITUAL

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A football game may have the same function of what we call a ritual of renewal in which everyone comes together in a kind of a free-for-all ceremony, says an anthropologist at the University of California, San Francisco.

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